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Mason County PSD Approved For Water & Waste Disposal Loan

Morgantown, WV – April 10, 2006: State Director Robert M. Steptoe, III, today announced that **Rural Development** approved a Water and Waste Disposal Direct Loan of \$577,550 for Mason County Public Service District, Mason County, WV.

Rural Development funds will be used to upgrade the District's existing wastewater lagoon. The lagoon does not currently meet the discharge limitations as required by the District's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

The capacity of the lagoon will also be increased in order to meet demands of the Lakin Hospital, the West Virginia Women's Prison and the Mason County State Police barracks.

Steptoe remarked, "This project will benefit the District's 183 current customers, improving their quality of life."

Rural Development serves as the lead Federal entity for rural development needs and administers program assistance through its rural housing programs, rural business programs, and rural utilities programs. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

Further information on USDA Rural Development may be obtained by visiting USDA's web site at http://www.rurdev.usda.gov. In West Virginia, call 1-800-295-8228 to be put in touch with the appropriate personnel serving your county. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202.720.2600 (voice and TDD).

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